

CIRCUIT ATTORNEY RECEIVES
CONGRATULATIONS ON VERDICT

Proffers of Aid From Citizens—Motion to Increase Meyenburg's Bond to Twenty Thousand Dollars Will Be Filed To-Day—Foreman Sanders Discusses the Verdict—How It Was Reached—Circuit Attorney Folk Talks of the Instructions.

CASE MAY REACH SUPREME COURT ON APPEAL IN OCTOBER.

The verdict of guilty in the case of Councilman Emil A. Meyenburg, convicted by a special jury on the charge of accepting a bribe of \$2,000 to influence his vote on the Suburban Railway bill in 1901, was the absorbing topic of interest yesterday among all classes of citizens. In the street cars, in the hotel lobbies, cafes, clubs, public resorts and in the markets of trade it was the general subject of conversation. When two or more friends or acquaintances met.

A feature of the verdict against Meyenburg which caused marked comment was the remarkable unanimity of opinion expressed by the jurors as to the guilt of the defendant. Without previous deliberation, each of the twelve jurors wrote his verdict of guilty on the first ballot taken. There was no necessity for reconsideration or recapitulation of the evidence. The testimony submitted had evidently left an indelible impression on the mind of each individual juror, and it required not the argument of counsel for the State in review, clear and convincing as it was, to strengthen and fix their conviction of the defendant's guilt. Within ten minutes after the jury had retired Meyenburg had been adjudged guilty, and the remaining time was spent in determining the degree of punishment.

FOREMAN OF THE JURY.
George W. Sanders, of No. 432 West Pine boulevard, president of the Sanders Dock and Rubber Company, was foreman of the jury. He said:

"The verdict was remarkable, in my opinion, in the unanimity expressed as to the guilt of the defendant before any attempt had been made by the jurors, as a body, to review the evidence. The arguments did not affect my view of the case, as I had already determined my verdict on the evidence. I believe the same rule applies to the other jurors, as the result indicates."

"Our first duty on entering the juryroom was to select a foreman, a clerk and a teller. I was chosen foreman, Mr. Brown, clerk, and Mr. Maxwell, teller. As foreman I suggested, to sound the jury, that an informal ballot be taken. Each juror wrote his decision on a ballot, and these were collected by Mr. Brown, and tallied by Mr. Maxwell. Each juror had written the same word, 'guilty.' This, of course, obviated any necessity of discussion on that point, and we then proceeded to determine the degree of punishment. There were differences of opinion on this point, some favoring two years, others the maximum, seven years, with scattering votes between these two limits. We compromised on the third ballot on three years as the average of all the suggestions."

When Circuit Attorney Folk next morning found himself surrounded by a throng of admirers, he was told that he had received his office in the four courts yesterday morning he found his desk piled high with congratulatory letters and telegrams, all of them congratulatory. Some of the telegrams were from out of town, from New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Chicago and cities near by. Many of the communications contained offers of aid and assistance from prominent citizens.

INSTRUCTIONS OF THE COURT.

"There is one point," said the Circuit Attorney yesterday, "on which I would like the Republic to set the mind of the public clear, and that is in reference to the Judge's instructions to the jury. In some manner impression has got abroad that the instructions were favorable to the defendant. This is not so, and it does an injustice to Judge Douglas. The instructions were eminently fair and impartial in their application to the State and the defense, and the State never had the slightest reason to doubt that its interests had been zealously guarded by the Court."

Lawyers were busy yesterday discussing the aftermath of the now celebrated case from the standpoint of the legal profession. It was generally admitted that the defense had made a serious mistake in forcing the State to trial in the case of Meyenburg, and had elected to try the cases of the other indicted men first. This mistake, it was pointed out, was due to the zeal of counsel for defense, who were sincere in the belief that there was no case against Meyenburg, and who did not wish to have a man of his standing resting under indictment.

"That is where the defense made its first serious error," said a prominent lawyer, who has closely followed the case, and who is interested in the cases of several of the other men under indictment. "Meyenburg might have been able to prove the validity of his claim in the civil courts, but there is a wide variance between civil and criminal practice. The State was in reality unprepared for the Meyenburg trial, when Meyenburg's attorneys accused Mr. Folk of not exhibiting energy in trying to prosecute the other cases first, but when he realized that he would be forced to trial he and his assistants dropped everything else and expended an enormous amount of energy in preparing for trial. The very urgency of counsel for Meyenburg proved his undoing, for the Circuit Attorney, in his investigations, happened on to the check incident with Cashier Austin of the Mechanics' Bank, and several other important points of which he had until then been in ignorance."

TESTIMONY OF DEFENSE PLAYED INTO STATE'S HANDS.
"By clever work he discovered the plan of defense, and with this before him, he and his assistants dropped everything else and expended an enormous amount of energy to bring it to naught. Knowing that the defense would rely mainly upon the validity of Meyenburg's claim against the Kinloch syndicate, to be augmented by evidence touching the value of the shares of stock held as collateral, they prepared their ground so as to admit just what they desired in the way of testimony for the defense and exclude other testimony."

"Attorney Krum's opening statement of the evidence the defense expected to offer, made before the State had introduced a single witness, was, in my opinion, another error, and played into the hands of the State. When he placed Meyenburg on the stand as his first witness he assisted the State's case and damaged his own."

Meyenburg remained at home all day yesterday. Morton Jordan, one of his counsel, who is preparing the arguments on the motion for a new trial, said yesterday that he had nothing to say for publication concerning the case or future action of counsel.

The motion for a new trial, notice of which was announced Thursday, will be filed on or before Tuesday, April 1. Arguments on it will be heard on Friday, law docket day. If this is overruled a motion in arrest of judgment will be filed. After this is disposed of, which may be in the next term of court, counsel will perfect an appeal and the case may reach the Supreme Court in October. Meyenburg will be formally sentenced after the disposal of the motions for a new trial and in arrest of judgment.

Circuit Attorney Folk said yesterday that he will ask Judge Douglas to-day to order Meyenburg's bond increased to \$20,000, the amount required by Nicholas and Kratz. The increase in the bonds of Nicholas, Kratz, Lehmann and Faulkner was ordered by Judge Ryan at the Circuit Attorney's request. Judge Douglas intimated Thursday night, when Meyenburg gave a new \$5,000 bond, that he deemed the bond sufficient.

MEYENBURG TO RETAIN HIS SEAT IN COUNCIL.
The verdict of guilty will not affect Meyenburg's position as Councilman, and there is no disposition on the part of his colleagues in that body to take any action against his participation in the deliberations because of the verdict against him. He has exercised the functions of his office since he was indicted, and may continue to do so until his case is finally disposed of in the Supreme Court.

If there was any doubt in the mind of the Circuit Attorney that John K. Murrell would not appear for trial next Tuesday, April 1, when his case is set for trial in Judge Ryan's court, that doubt has been dispelled by his success in securing a victory in the Meyenburg case. The Meyenburg case was a weak one, whereas, the Circuit Attorney says, the case against Murrell is one of the strongest of the lot. Murrell's case will be called Tuesday, but, unless the Circuit Attorney is in possession at that time of definite information that he is within the jurisdiction of the State, it is probable the case will be continued until next term. Yesterday the Circuit Attorney said he had no knowledge of Murrell's whereabouts.

The case of Charles Kratz is set for trial April 7, a week from next Monday. Kratz is charged with bribery in acting as the go-between for the Suburban Railway Company and the members of the Council in expediting legislation on the Suburban bill. In consideration of the sum of \$20,000, deposited in the safe-deposit box of the Lincoln Trust Company, keys to which were held by Philip Stock and John G. Brinkmeyer, he is under \$20,000 bond, signed by Gottlieb Egermann, Jr. He is represented by Attorneys "Bobby" Harvey and C. T. Egan. His attorneys made an energetic effort to secure a change of venue, but failed. Mr. Harvey is now in Hot Springs, but is expected home in time for the trial.

PERJURY CASE SET FOR WEEK OF APRIL 7.
The case of Julius Lehmann and Harry Faulkner, indicted for perjury in connection with the bribery transactions, will come before Judge Douglas on Tuesday, April 7, the first day of the April term. They will then be docketed for trial. Mr. Folk said he will try Lehmann's case first.

Besides these cases, there are indictments against six other men—Henry Nicholas, Eli Wainwright, R. M. Snyder, bribery; George J. Kobusch, perjury; John H. Becker, Ed Butler, attempted bribery. None of these cases is docketed for trial, as the indictments have not been returned into court. They will be returned next Saturday, when the Grand Jury will make its final report.

The Grand Jury will not consider any phases of municipal corruption until Wednesday. The report is almost complete, and the body may be able to devote two or three days to the consideration of cases already partly investigated before it goes out of existence.

EDGAR A. MEYHART MAY RETURN NEXT WEEK.
Hot Springs, Ark., March 28.—Edgar A. Meyhart was seen at the Arlington Hotel tonight, bringing a copy of The Republic containing a report of the Meyenburg trial and conviction. He was asked what he thought about the conviction of Meyenburg.

"I am not prepared to make any statement at present," he replied. "I may have a talk later, but at present I will not be quoted in the press."

When Meyhart was asked about his return to St. Louis, he said: "My rheumatism is much better and I may return any day. In fact, I am now of the opinion that next week I will be in St. Louis."

FLOODS AND STORMS
IN SOUTHERN STATES

Already Swollen Streams Sent Out of Their Banks by Tremendous Rains.

SEVERAL FAMILIES IN PERIL.

Severe Windstorms Wreck Many Buildings at Tupelo—Railroad Traffic Is Almost Completely Suspended.

Telegrams received by The Republic last night show that tremendous rains in Mississippi and Alabama yesterday sent many already swollen streams clear out of their banks and caused enormous damage in the lowlands.

In some places severe windstorms added to the loss. Many railroad have been obliged to shut down.

In North Dakota, railway traffic is practically stopped by floods, resulting from the rapid melting of snow.

At Jackson, Miss., the Pearl River has risen to within 100 feet of the State Capitol. Scores of families have been compelled to move to higher ground.

The Tallahatchie River at New Albany, Miss., rose five feet in two hours. Late last night a dozen families had been compelled to take refuge on their roofs to await the coming of boats.

Seventy-five negro cabins and a negro school were destroyed by a severe storm at Tupelo. Many residences were damaged.

At Meridian, Miss., eleven inches of rain fell in two days. All trains are stopped, and many bridges are out. Wires are down on most of the lines, and the location of the trains is uncertain.

At Mobile, Ala., traffic has been interrupted by the floods.

So far as reports were received last night no lives had been lost, although several persons in the flooded districts had not yet arrived at places of safety.

STORM SWEEPS TEXAS TOWN.

Several Persons Severely Injured at Geraldine.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.
Fort Worth, Tex., March 28.—Meager advice was received here to-night of a severe electric storm at the newly established town of Geraldine in the Fitzgerald colony, Knox County, Wichita Valley. At 6:30 yesterday afternoon the storm rushed over the town and damaged every house in the place, that of the Fitzgerald family being demolished.

Every member of the family was injured. Four other men were seriously injured, one fatally. It is said that a window glass was left unbroken in the place. Geraldine is thirty miles from a railway and telegraph station, and news is by courier.

HUSBAND STOLE WIFE'S LEG.

It Was Wooden, and He Wanted to Keep Her at Home.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.
Fort Worth, Tex., March 28.—Mrs. Minnie Lavers, a tall, angular woman, hobbled into the Chicago Avenue Station to-day and asked the police for a warrant for her husband for stealing her leg. She explained to the horrified policemen that this was an artificial leg, and that her husband, who was insatiably jealous, took this unique method of keeping her at home. Taking advantage of the fact that she was sleeping, he had hidden her leg, but she managed to crawl up to the street car and get to the station. A policeman was sent back with her to the home to make a thorough search for the missing member.

EXAMINED GIRLS' FEET.

Nine Students of the Missouri University Were Dismissed.

Columbia, Mo., March 28.—For halting young women on the campus and examining their feet nine students of the Missouri State University have been dismissed, and the names of others are being secured with a view to similar punishment.

The girls were on their way to a banquet in the academic hall, given by the freshmen.

LEADING TOPICS

—IN—

TO-DAY'S REPUBLIC.

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For Missouri and Arkansas—Fair and colder Saturday; Sunday fair.

For Illinois—Fair Saturday, colder except near the lake; Sunday fair.

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For West Texas—Fair Saturday, colder in Panhandle; Sunday fair.

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21. Woman Shot Dead in Quarrel.

22. Wanted to Force Her to Marry.

23. Mob Hanged Reprieved Murderer.

24. Kern Condemns Republicans.

25. May Retard Improvement.

26. Aldermen Nominated.

27. Republic Special.

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Goldsberry was afraid of banks and kept his money in his cash drawer.

Aldermen Nominated.

Madison, Ill., March 28.—The Democratic ward conventions to nominate Aldermen were held last night. The nominees are William Derringer, George W. Shaw, Benjamin Cooper, Joseph A. King, Thomas Rove, Smith Ellis and James Morris.

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STATE DEPARTMENT
WILL IGNORE CHARGES

Will Not Take Up With Danish Government Matter of Alleged Bribery of Americans.

CHRISTMAS'S STORY DENIED.

Abner McKinley's Partner Denounces It as Unqualifiedly Malicious—Denmark's Attitude Explained.

Washington, March 28.—The State Department will take no steps to bring to the attention of the Danish Government the charges against the integrity of American statesmen preferred by Captain Christmas and yesterday brought to the attention of the House of Representatives. The department regards the charges as unworthy its attention by reason of insufficient evidence and obvious error in statements of alleged facts.

The department is perfectly aware also that the Danish Government does not intend to pay one cent of the \$200,000 claimed by Christmas as his commission, so that, of course, none of that money could be used to corrupt American statesmen and newspapers.

UNQUALIFIEDLY MALICIOUS.
New York, March 28.—Wilbur C. Brown, partner of Abner McKinley, whose name was mentioned in connection with the charges against McKinley, has sent the following letter to Representative Daisell, chairman of the investigating committee:

"Dear Sir: The papers this morning contain extracts read in Congress yesterday from insidious charges alleged by one Walter Christmas in connection with the purchase of the Danish West Indies. As a Danish agent in reporting the sale of the islands to the United States, I am unqualifiedly malicious in every particular. I shall be glad to appear before your committee at any time you may desire. Respectfully,

(Signed) "W. C. BROWN,"
Carl Fischer-Hansen, of this city, who was attorney for Walter Christmas, the representative of the Danish Government in the purchase of the Danish West Indies in 1900, is indignant at the conduct of his client, shown in his secret report to the Danish Ministry, lately published.

"Ordinarily legal etiquette," said he, "would prevent my speaking; but this report is so defamatory and outrageous that I feel justified in washing my hands of the whole matter."

NO COMMISSION FOR CHRISTMAS.
Copenhagen, March 28.—The Christmas scandal is not discussed here, nor are the facts in the case published in the Copenhagen press. A full account of Christmas' statements in Congress was telegraphed to the semi-official news agency in this city.

Denmark, however, has heard from both Captain Walter N. Christmas and Niels Green, who also has claimed to have acted as a Danish agent in reporting the sale of the Danish West Indies. Each claimed a commission, but the Government has refused to recognize either of them, declaring that neither was ever connected with the negotiations in the slightest degree.

CHRISTMAS'S NEW STATEMENT.
SPECIAL BY CABLE TO THE NEW YORK HERALD AND TRIBUNE ST. LOUIS, MARCH 28.—(Copyright, 1902.)—The Daily Mail's correspondent in Copenhagen has had a talk with Captain Christmas, who is not the least astonished by the American scandal.

"The Danish 'no-sale' party," he said, "hopes to break off the sale by the help of a scandal. For that purpose somebody stole my confidential report to the Government and engaged a certain Niels Green, an American citizen, to go to Washington to report to Congress that I was either a Danish agent or a bribe taker."

Captain Christmas sent through a press agency here on February 19 a declaration, under pressure of an oath, that no member of the Danish Government was either directly or indirectly interested in the sale of the Danish Islands.

As far as he knew, he added, he sent this declaration to the Foreign Office, with a demand to forward it to the Danish Ambassador, Mr. Brun, in Washington. It was also published in all the Danish newspapers without a denial.

"I never had any arrangement about a view to similar punishment. The girls were on their way to a banquet in the academic hall, given by the freshmen."

ENGLISH GOVERNMENT FRIENDLY TO WORLD'S FAIR.
Appointment of Royal Commission to Represent United Kingdom Seems Likely.

London, March 28.—Americans assigned to the duty of securing the representation of the United Kingdom at the St. Louis Exposition are pressing the Government to appoint a Royal Commission to attend to the matter. Ambassador Choate is co-operating with George P. Parker, resident Commissioner of the Fair in London and prominent American business men are lending a hand.

The Government treats the question in a friendly spirit, but finds it difficult on account of the stress of public affairs, to get time to create the desired commission. T. W. Crider, former Third Assistant Secretary of the Department of State, will reach England shortly to reinforce those whose services are already enlisted in behalf of the big show. In a few weeks Mr. Crider will be followed by the official American Commission, representing both the Exposition and the Government.

It is probable that when the envoys arrive the American society will give a dinner, to which may leading Britishers will be invited, and at which the Exposition will be systematically promoted. Mr. Parker is confident that a Royal Commission will be formed in the near future, and that hereafter the organization of the industries of the country will proceed rapidly on the lines set down for the Chicago World's Fair.

ASKS MONEY FOR HIS GUARD.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.
Louisville, Ky., March 28.—W. S. Taylor, a fugitive from Kentucky, has brought suit in the Franklin County Court for \$5,000 to pay soldiers for March 28, who were in Frankfort to act as a bodyguard for him while he was on the way to the State Penitentiary to serve a term of five years for the assassination of William H. Harrison.

The outcome of the case will be watched with interest by the 30 men who were employed as bodyguards for Taylor, and the length of time. All the soldiers under Adjutant General Collier were paid for the first few days of their services, but the Treasurer and Auditor were prevented from paying after February 1.

WOMAN RUNS FOR CONGRESS.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.
Louisville, Ky., March 28.—The race for Congress in the Tenth District is being invigorated by Miss Mary Burkhart, a good-looking young woman, worth \$100,000, who is a candidate on the Prohibition ticket. She is the first candidate in the field, and is making a house-to-house canvass.

In talking of the men tell me that my race is useless; that if I am elected I get no money. I want to say that if I get a majority of the vote cast in the Tenth District